

A Special Invite to the OELA Summit:

The U.S. Department of Education and the Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA), will hold its first Summit on English Language Acquisition under the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), Wednesday-Friday, November 13-15, 2002, at the Washington Hilton Hotel in Washington D.C. This special Summit will feature leaders in education and government, including First Lady Laura Bush (invited), US Department of Education Secretary Rod Paige and nationally recognized experts in education. All participants are invited to a special Wednesday evening reception with key members of Congress who worked to develop the new NCLB law.

The Summit theme is *Celebrate Our Rising Stars*. Sessions will focus on the critical issues and requirements affecting your services to English Language Learners (ELLs) under Title III of NCLB. Sessions will feature panels and presentations and include discussion on such topics as accountability and assessment and meeting Annual Yearly Progress, early childhood education, parental involvement, professional development, building on scientifically based research, and effective partnerships between state education agencies and local school districts, under NCLB.

This OELA Summit is planned as a major professional development activity for addressing the needs of ELL students and will build a base for Title III activities throughout the coming year. As a Title III sub-grantee you should consider this Summit a first priority as you develop your training plans and prepare to join us here in Washington DC, November 13-15, 2002. We encourage you to invite all those who are important to the education of your ELL students including teaching staff, principals, parents, superintendents, school board members and members of the school community who may benefit from participation in the Summit. Please be aware that your Title III grant funds may be used to cover the cost of travel, lodging and registration for the summit.

You can obtain additional information or register for the Summit at:

<http://www.barreraassociates.com/>

or by calling our Summit contractor, Barrera Associates at: **202/638-6631**

I look forward to your participation and to the opportunity of working with you to better support our English language learners.

Sincerely,

Maria H. Ferrier
Director OELA